# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION

STEPHEN KNOWLES, TRUSTEE OF THE	)
BRICKLAYERS OF INDIANA RETIREMENT	)
FUND, BRICKLAYERS AND TROWEL TRADES	)
INTERNATIONAL PENSION FUND, BRICKLAYERS	)
AND ALLIED CRAFTWORKERS INTERNATIONAL	)
HEALTH FUND (AS SUCCESSOR TO BRICKLAYERS	)
OF INDIANA HEALTH AND WELFARE FUND),	)
INDIANA BRICKLAYERS LOCAL 4 JOINT	)
APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING COMMITTEE,	)
BRICKLAYERS LOCAL 4 AND INDIANAPOLIS	)
PENSION FUND,	)
Plaintiffs,	) No. 1:20-cv-441
	)
v.	)
	)
HERMESCH MASONRY L.L.C., an Indiana domestic	)
limited liability company,	)
Defendant.	)

## **COMPLAINT**

Plaintiffs, by their attorneys, DONALD D. SCHWARTZ and ARNOLD AND KADJAN, LLP, complain against Defendant, HERMESCH MASONRY L.L.C., as follows:

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 1. (a) Jurisdiction of this cause is based upon Section 502 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, 29 U.S.C. Section 1132 ("ERISA") and 29 U.S.C. 1145 as amended.
- (b) Venue is founded pursuant to 29 U.S.C. Section 1132(e) (2) in this district, where the Funds as described in Paragraph 2, are administered and 29 U.S.C. Section 185(c).

#### **PARTIES**

2. (a) The Plaintiffs in this count STEPHEN KNOWLES, TRUSTEE OF THE BRICKLAYERS OF INDIANA RETIREMENT FUND, BRICKLAYERS AND TROWEL

TRADES INTERNATIONAL PENSION FUND, BRICKLAYERS AND ALLIED
CRAFTWORKERS INTERNATIONAL HEALTH FUND (AS SUCCESSOR TO
BRICKLAYERS OF INDIANA HEALTH AND WELFARE FUND), INDIANA
BRICKLAYERS LOCAL 4 JOINT APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING COMMITTEE,
BRICKLAYERS LOCAL 4 AND INDIANAPOLIS PENSION FUND JOINT
APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING COMMITTEE AND BRICKLAYERS AND ALLIED
CRAFTWORKERS LOCAL 4 INDIANA/KENTUCKY AND LOUISVILLE PENSON FUND
("the Funds"), and have standing to sue pursuant to 29 U.S.C. Section 1132(d)(1).

- (b) The Funds have been established pursuant to collective bargaining agreements previously entered into between the Bricklayers Union Local 4, IN/KY and its affiliated locals (the "Union") and certain employer associations whose employees are covered by the collective bargaining agreement with the Union.
- (c) The Funds are maintained and administered in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act, as amended, and other applicable state and federal laws and also pursuant to the terms and provisions of the agreements and Declarations of Trust which establish the Funds.
- 3. (a) HERMESCH MASONRY L.L.C. (hereafter "HERMESCH"), employs persons performing bargaining unit work in the jurisdiction of Union and is bound to make contributions for hours worked by its bargaining unit employees.
  - (b) HERMESCH has its principal place of business in Greensburg, Indiana.
  - (c) HERMESCH is an employer engaged in an industry affecting commerce.
- 4. Since March 12, 2014, HERMESCH has entered into a collective bargaining agreement with the Union pursuant to which it is required to pay specified wages and to make periodic

contributions to the Funds on behalf of certain of its employees. (Exhibit "A")

- 5. By virtue of certain provisions contained in the collective bargaining agreements, HERMESCH is bound by the Trust Agreement establishing the Funds.
- 6. Under the terms of the collective bargaining agreements and Trust Agreements to which it is bound, HERMESCH is required to make contributions to the Funds on behalf of their employees and, when given reasonable notice by Plaintiffs or their representatives, to submit all necessary books and records to Plaintiff's accountant for the purpose of determining whether or not it is in compliance with its obligation to contribute to the Funds.
- 7. Plaintiffs are advised and believe that from **March 12, 2014 through the present,** HERMESCH has failed to make some of the contributions from time to time required to be paid by it to the Funds pursuant to the terms of the Trust Agreements by which it is bound, all in violation of its contractual obligations and its obligations under applicable state and federal statutes.

#### **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs pray for relief as follows:

- A. HERMESCH be ordered to submit to an audit for March 12, 2014 through the present.
- B. Judgment be entered on any amounts found to be due on the audit.
- C. Plaintiffs be awarded their costs herein, including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in the prosecution of this action, together with liquidated damages in the amount of 20%, all as provided in the applicable agreements and ERISA Section 502(g)(2).
- D. HERMESCH be enjoined from violating the terms of the collective bargaining agreements and Trust Agreements by failing to make timely payments to the Funds and

be ordered to resume making those payments.

E. This Court grant Plaintiffs such other and further relief as it may deem appropriate under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPHEN KNOWLES, et. al.

By: s/ Donald D. Schwartz
One of their Attorneys

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